

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In melting thermoplastic material, particularly in the form of strip-like or fibrous refuse, where the material is melted through contact with a liquid heat-transfer medium and is then separated from the heat-transfer medium, and to assure a high degree of effectiveness and to maintain a high level of quality in the molten material, it is provided that steam at a temperature distinctly higher than the melting temperature of the material is used as a heat-transfer medium and is conducted over the introduced material, the molten or at least semi-molten material is entrained by the flowing steam and is then separated from the steam at a temperature lying above the melting temperature of the material, and the steam is returned to the circuit.

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